

Book and Tract Work.

A VALUABLE RELIC.

Looking through my pamphlets recently, I found a copy of the story of Jesus. It was without a back, its pages yellow and stained, its leaves curled, and mud found within its leaves, on the back written "This book went through the Johnstown flood." Such is the case, the book was presented to sister S. G. Giffins, who found it after the flood. It is much appreciated and will be kept as long as there is a book in the house. This leads me to devote this letter to a pamphlet that had a circulation large and wide, and that is yet called for. The following letter speaks for itself.

A LETTER OF INTEREST.

York City, Jan. 7, 1892.—Rev. John Duke McFaden. Kind Sir:—I have obtained your address in a peculiar way. I am confined in the York City jail, and some time ago, while in an out-cell used for refuse, etc., I discovered among the truck and garbage, a small book, bearing the title, "The Story of Jesus." It was all water-soaked, and a few of its leaves torn out but I laid it in the sun on my cell window to dry, and have read it again and again (except a few missing leaves.) Oh it has been a God-send to me, and I blessed the day I picked it from the garbage pile, wishing for a complete copy. I would thank you very much to favor me with one, mailed to my address. What is the price of the "Chautauqua Text Book," No 31, mentioned on page 74? I had a visitor to make inquiry about it for me but he reported no success in finding it, and as I am without means, I did not like to urge him to try and procure it. A slip describing the same with price, enclosed in the "Story of Jesus," and mailed to my address, would be most thankfully received, and may God bless you for the kindness. I enclose a letter which I printed from a small press and type which I have in my cell. My disadvantages in life have been many, but I trust I have reached the acme of my sorrows; and meekly kissing this thunderbolt of rebuke, I have the undoubted evidence of a better bye-and-bye. May God bless you in your labor of love. Very affectionately,

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The letter was written on strips of paper pasted together. The top strip had printed on it: "Necessity is the mother of invention," and "Having no note paper, I have cut and pasted the margins of printed sheets in this manner, to answer the purpose. If my correspondent can

read my scribbling on this patched up substitute for something better, I am satisfied." * * * The little pamphlet referred to, had an account of his life. I loaned it to an acquaintance, who thought so much of it that he never returned it. I corresponded with the prisoner, and could write much, but I give his letter above, to show how a tract may be picked up and lead to a touch that will be helpful.

ANOTHER LETTER OF INTEREST.

Previous to this time, Elder Chunister had sold the "Story of Jesus" in York City. He may have sold this copy. He has sold many thousand. I asked him to write me an account of his work. Here is what he says:

Dear Brother:—I consider it my duty to give what you have asked,—my experience in selling the "Story of Jesus." Three years ago I bought a copy and read it very carefully and found it to be one of the best little books I ever read. I immediately went to work to widen its circulation, and sent for one hundred copies. To my surprise, I found I could sell them like hot-cakes. I was selling other books at the time, but dropped them and gave my whole time to selling the "Story of Jesus." I have sold THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND copies, and only one hundred copies wholesale; all the others I sold canvassing from door to door. I have sold as many as one hundred and three copies in one day, and as many as seven copies in one house. My greatest comfort has come from the fact that many careless, reckless, sinful men and women have been personally reached with the sweet old story of redeeming love. It has been a cross to go into the slums of our large cities. I have had men and women curse me, and even throw stones at me, but God, who is able of these stones to raise up children has kept me from all danger. I would recommend this excellent little book to every godly man and woman who feels interested in the advancement of Christ's kingdom. I pray it may have all possible success, and that God will bring home the word with mighty power to every heart.

Yours low at the master's feet.

These are only two letters out of probably a thousand, the best in one way, and yet not the most precious. They show that printer's ink rightly used can be a blessing, and through the press one can preach even though he opens not his mouth. There is talent and money in the church. Bring them together and a million souls can be touched, and when a greater than a Johnstown flood sweeps the earth, the soul touching Jesus will reach the salvation side and enjoy eternal blessing.

JOHN DUKE MCFADEN.

The Sunday-School.

WATCHFULNESS.

BY THE EDITOR.

The Sunday-school lesson for April 21, is taken from Matthew 24:42-52, and suggests a very important subject for study—*Watchfulness*. The day when Jesus spoke the parable of the vineyard, the subject of last lesson, was a very busy day for him, being the last one in the temple. To get the connection, read Matt. 22:1-24; Mark 12; John 12:20-50.

LIFE TEACHINGS.

1. There is no counsel more frequently given in the Bible than this one—*watch*. Many reasons are assigned as to why we should watch. Sin is so deceptive, Satan is so wary, temptations so numerous, that only sleepless watchfulness is safe for the Christian. Here we are commanded to be watchful because of the Savior's sudden coming. That Jesus will come again is clearly taught in the New Testament; *when* he will come, no human being knows. To be ready therefore when he *does* come, is to be always ready.

2. For what are we to be ready? For Christ's coming. What is it to be ready? The great and important thing is to be reconciled to God, to be at peace with him. There can be nothing more terrible than the sudden coming of death to one who is unforgiven, unsaved, at enmity with God.

3. The kind of watchfulness that Jesus wants is not mere idle looking for him. He does not mean that we are to sit down and fold our hands and *do* nothing. Watchfulness implies activity. "Blessed is that servant whom he shall find so doing." Doing how? Doing his work faithfully—engaged in the active duties of life. If we knew that Jesus were coming tomorrow, what would we likely be found doing? Some one asked John Wesley what he would do if he knew he were to die that night at ten o'clock. He replied in substance that he would finish the work that he had then in hand; he would prepare to preach at five o'clock that evening, return home, preach again at eight, engage in evening devotion, retire to rest, and wake up in heaven.

4. Young people should be watchful against the danger of drinking. Strong drink is a great hindrance to the progress of christianity, and our young people should not only guard against its use, but make every lawful effort to suppress the traffic.

No good deed, no genuine sacrifice, is ever wasted.